

**Resolution 2021-04**  
**A Resolution Honoring the Life of**  
**Retired New Castle City Police Chief Eugene C. Petty**  
**April 21, 1927 - January 26, 2021**

**WHEREAS**, the City of New Castle was deeply saddened by the death of one of its most beloved citizens, former New Castle City Police Chief, Eugene Petty who passed away on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at the age of 93; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Petty served his country and the City of New Castle in many ways throughout his life; through his Military Service, and as a New Castle City Police Officer, starting in 1963, and ultimately retiring as the City's first African American Police Chief in 1983. Through his work with the Buttonwood United Methodist Church and the Buttonwood Colored School Community Center & Museum he demonstrated in countless ways his commitment to the City and its legacy; both the Chief and his wife Teel Petty attended the Buttonwood school as children and were instrumental in its revitalization; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Petty was a lifetime member of a number of organizations including the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), Delaware State Chiefs of Police, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement (NOBLE), and was a Boy Scout leader for Troop 505 for 25 years; in 2015 Chief Petty received the Newark Chapter NAACP Lifetime Community Certificate at the 19th Annual Freedom Fund Awards; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Petty is remembered by his fellow officers as being ahead of his time, and a bridge-builder between the Police and the Community, he believed an officer's greatest weapon was not a gun, but their ability to communicate. He is survived by his beloved wife, Teel Petty, a former New Castle City Councilperson, his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren as well as extended family and numerous friends. Chief Petty will be long remembered in the History of New Castle and will hold a special place in the hearts of his family, friends and indeed by all who knew him.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED**, that the Mayor and members of the City Council desire to publicly acknowledge the life and legacy of Eugene C. Petty and his service to the City of New Castle, and direct this Resolution to be spread upon the minutes of the February 9, 2021 City Council meeting and a copy be forwarded to the family he so cherished.

**Dated this 9th Day of February 2021**

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Michael J. Quaranta, Mayor

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Linda Ratchford, City Council President

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Valarie W. Leary, Councilperson

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Michael M. Platt, Councilperson

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Russell P. Smith, Councilperson

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Suzanne M. Souder, Councilperson

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Janet E. Carlin, Treasurer

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Brian G. Whitaker, City Clerk